

House Resolution 37 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY PETTENGILL, KAUFMANN, SANDS, J. SMITH, ALONS,
IVERSON, WATTS, SHAW, HEATON, BAUDLER, TJEPKES,
DRAKE, SCHULTZ, BALTIMORE, BYRNES, HORBACH,
RASMUSSEN, SODERBERG, GRASSLEY, PAUSTIAN,
DOLECHECK, CHAMBERS, VANDER LINDEN, MUHLBAUER,
HEIN, WITTNEBEN, RAYHONS, WINDSCHITL, WENTHE,
MOORE, THOMAS, DE BOEF, DEYOE, FRY, MASSIE, and
QUIRK

1 A Resolution urging the nullification of rules adopted
2 by the United States Environmental Protection
3 Agency relating to national emissions standards for
4 hazardous air pollutants for reciprocating internal
5 combustion engines.

6 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental
7 Protection Agency in March 2010 finalized national
8 emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants for
9 reciprocating internal combustion engines which took
10 effect in May 2013; and

11 WHEREAS, the rules would have a devastating impact
12 on Iowa's municipal utilities due to the fact that the
13 municipal utilities collectively operate 287 diesel
14 electric generators with a combined nameplate capacity
15 of 548 megawatts; and

16 WHEREAS, these rules impact 67 utilities that serve
17 a total of 106,000 customers with an average of 1,560
18 customer meters per utility; and

19 WHEREAS, Iowa's municipal electric utilities
20 operate diesel generators both to be able to keep the
21 lights on when transmissions lines are downed by ice,

1 wind, floods, or other natural disasters or man-made
2 emergencies, and to meet the obligation to own or buy
3 reserve capacity; and

4 WHEREAS, the rules allow a municipal electric
5 utility to run diesel generators in an emergency, but
6 effectively take away the ability of a small community
7 to afford them by prohibiting the receipt of payment or
8 credit for reserve capacity; and

9 WHEREAS, the diesel generators run only a few hours
10 a year, with averages ranging from 14 to 46 hours
11 depending on power supply arrangements; and

12 WHEREAS, the application of the rules requires that
13 each of these engines either be retrofit, replaced,
14 or removed, resulting in huge cost increases to the
15 citizen owners of these utilities in the form of rate
16 increases and lost capacity; and

17 WHEREAS, the cost estimate if all 287 diesel
18 generators were to be retrofit for compliance over a
19 10-year period is \$36 million, which is an average cost
20 of \$34.14 per year per customer with costs as high
21 as \$203 per year per customer or more, and such cost
22 estimates would increase beyond this amount if diesel
23 generators are replaced or taken out of service; NOW
24 THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
26 the United States Environmental Protection Agency is
27 urged to rescind the national emissions standards for
28 hazardous air pollutants for reciprocating internal
29 combustion engines; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Iowa's Congressional

1 delegation is urged to take action to nullify the
2 rules; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the
4 House of Representatives shall forward a copy of this
5 resolution to the Administrator of the United States
6 Environmental Protection Agency and all members of
7 Iowa's Congressional delegation.